

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 EB-11 /158 W

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P 312135 Z MAY 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8219

UNCLAS USUN 2047

DEPT PASS ALL MIDDLE EAST, WESTERN EUROPEAN AND NORTH
AFRICAN POSTS

DEPT REPEAT USUN 2032 (MAY 30) ALL MIDDLE EAST,
WESTERN EUROPEAN AND NORTH AFRICAN POSTS

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, LY

SUBJ: GUIDANCE ON LIBYAN LETTER TO SECURITY COUNCIL

REF: USUN 2032

AT PRESS BRIEFING MAY 31 USUN SPOKESMAN KING READ FOLLOWING
PREPARED DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS
ON LIBYAN LETTER :

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ABOUT THE LIBYAN ACCUSATION AGAINST
THE UNITED STATES IN ITS LETTER OF MAY 30 TO THE SECURITY
COUNCIL?

A. WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY COMMENTED ON LIBYAN ACCUSATIONS OF
THIS KIND AND HAVE DENIED LIBYAN ALLEGATIONS THAT US AIRCRAFT
HAVE VIOLATED LIBYAN SOVEREIGN AIR SPACE. WE HAVE
REPEATEDLY OFFERED TO DISCUSS WITH THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT ANY
PROBLEMS IT MAY PERCEIVE TO EXIST REGARDING THE OPERATION
OF AIRCRAFT IN INTERNATIONAL AIR SPACE OVER THE MEDITERRANEAN.
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WE HAVE MADE CLEAR IN A NOTE FILED WITH THE LIBYANS THAT WE
DO NOT ACCEPT THE SPECIAL ZONE THEY HAVE DECLARED IN A RADIUS
OF 100 NAUDICAL MILES FROM TRIPOLI AS CONSISTENT WITH INTER-
NATIONAL LAW OR AS CONSTITUTING SOVEREIGN LIBYAN TERRITORIAL

WATERS OR AIR SPACE. WE CAN ONLY REGRET THAT THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT HAS FAILED TO RESPOND TO OUR APPROACHES REGARDING SUCH MATTERS AND HAS RESORTED INSTEAD TO EXERCISES IN PUBLIC RHETORIC.

WE CAN NOT COMMENT ON ANY SPECIFIC MILITARY MATTERS EXCEPT TO REPEAT THAT OUR UNITS AT NO TIME HAVE VIOLATED LIBYAN SOVEREIGN AIR SPACE. WE OF COURSE HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO CARRY OUT FLIGHTS IN INTERNATIONAL AIR SPACE OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THERE WAS NO CONTACT OR CITING OR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN US AND LIBYAN AIRCRAFT ON APRIL 30 OR ON ANY OTHER DATE SINCE LIBYAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM THEIR CONTROLLER ATTEMPTED TO SHOOT DOWN AN UNARMED US C-130 ON MARCH 21.

THE US HARBORS NO AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS TOWARD THE PEOPLE OR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC. OIL CONCESSIONS IN LIBYA WERE ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LIBYAN LAW. THE TERMS OF THE OIL CONCESSIONS ARE A MATTER BETWEEN THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT AND THE OIL COMPANIES INVOLVED AND WE NOTE THEY HAVE BEEN REVISED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT OF THE TWO PARTIES INVOLVED.

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NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED.

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Disposition Event:
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